The core of CLU’s distinctive education centers on its small class size and exceptional faculty. Classrooms and technology also play an important role in the teaching, learning and student activities process. Most of the facilities on campus have become reality because of the generous donors who firmly believe in the mission of the University. The names of the buildings pay tribute to those donors, friends and foundations that have invested significantly in the University. Names like Pearson, Preus, Brandt, Samuelson, Ahmanson, Soland, Spies-Bornemann, Gilbert, Kramer, Pederson, Hansen all reflect exemplary support of CLU.

The 1980s triggered a new era of construction on campus under the presidency of Dr. Jerry Miller. Not since the creation of the original campus had so many fine new facilities been built. The new facilities captured the youthful energy of the University, yet, at the same time, conveyed a sense of academic tradition. An especially beautiful design was incorporated into Samuelson Chapel with its towering spire and breathtaking stained glass windows. Opening in 1991, the inspiring edifice serves as the wellspring of faith on campus. The location of the chapel directly across from the library accentuates the Lutheran tradition of higher education’s commitment to both faith and reason.

The long-anticipated athletics center complex became a reality through the Now is the Time Campaign. Major facilities realized from the $90 million raised are the Gilbert Sports and Fitness Center, the George Sparky Anderson Baseball Stadium, the Samuelson Aquatics Center, and a new track and soccer field.